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Mr. William Gray, to be Resident Fellow in Class III. Section 3.

Dr. James C. White, to be Resident Fellow in Class II. Section 3.

Mr. J. Eliot Cabot, to be Resident Fellow in Class III. Section 4.

Mr. William R. Ware, to be Resident Fellow in Class I. Section 4.

Dr. Frederic H. Hedge, to be Resident Fellow in Class III. Section 1.

Mr. Charles Dean, to be Resident Fellow in Class III. Section 3.

Dr. Isaac Ray of Philadelphia, to be Associate Fellow in Class III. Section 1.

Henry Sumner Maine, to be Foreign Honorary Member in Class III. Section 1, in place of the late Dr. Whewell.

Professor Peirce presented by title an investigation on "Linear Algebra."

Five hundred and seventy-fourth Meeting.

November 21, 1866. — SPECIAL MEETING.

The PRESIDENT in the chair.

The President called the attention of the Academy to the recent decease of Rev. Dr. William Jenks of the Resident Fellows.

Dr. J. Bigelow read a paper on "Classical and Utilitarian Studies."

Five hundred and seventy-fifth Meeting.

December 11, 1866. — MONTHLY MEETING.

The PRESIDENT in the chair.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters relative to exchanges.

Dr. Kneeland read a communication on certain fungoid parasites which grow from the bodies of insects.

Mr. G. W. Hill gave an account of the present state of the Lunar Theory.

Mr. T. S. Hunt presented some theoretical considerations in explanation of the chemical activity of substances in the "Nascent State."

Five hundred and seventy-sixth Meeting.

January 8, 1867. — MONTHLY MEETING.

The PRESIDENT in the chair.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters relating to exchanges; also an invitation to the members of this Academy from the Imperial Mineralogical Society of St. Petersburg, to attend the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation.

The following communication was presented: —

On the Object and Method of Mineralogy. By T. STERRY HUNT, F. R. S.

Mineralogy, as popularly understood, holds an anomalous position among the natural sciences, and is by many regarded as having no claims to the rank of a distinct science, but as constituting a branch of chemistry. This secondary place is disputed by some mineralogists, who have endeavored to base a natural-history classification upon such characters as the crystalline form, hardness, and specific gravity of minerals. In systems of this kind, however, like those of Möhs and his followers, only such species as occur ready formed in nature are comprehended, and the great number of artificial species, often closely related to native minerals, are excluded. It may moreover be said, in objection to these naturalists, that in its wider sense the chemical history of bodies takes into consideration all those characters upon which the so-called natural systems of mineral classification are based. In order to understand clearly the question before us, we must first consider what are the real objects, and what the provinces, respectively, of mineralogy and of chemistry.

Of the three great divisions or kingdoms of nature, the classification of the vegetable gives rise to systematic botany, that of the animal to zoölogy, and that of the mineral to mineralogy, which has for its subject the natural history of all the forms of unorganized matter. The